

27 May 2010

Dear Tawa Community Board

**Social Housing Policy – submission response**

Thank you for your recent submission on the policy for Wellington City Council's social housing service.

The Council received 26 written and 10 oral submissions on the draft policy. The key matters raised were:

- The reduction in the number of bedsits and housing overall as part of the Housing Upgrade Programme
- A lack of consultation or involvement of tenants
- The fairness and appropriateness of the eligibility criteria for social housing
- The affordability of rent for some tenants
- The lack of affordable housing in Wellington.

Councillors took all submissions into account when debating the draft policy. They then unanimously adopted the policy at the Council meeting on Wednesday 28 April 2010.

Attached for your reference is a copy of the committee paper which presented and analysed the submissions received on the draft policy and a copy of the final policy adopted by Council. In relation to the Tawa Community Board's submission, that the social housing in Tawa should remain for use by older people, the advice considered and accepted by the Committee was that:

*the fit elderly are a priority group in the draft policy. Currently the Council accommodates about 200 households (about 10 per cent) that fall within this category across the portfolio. Some housing complexes, such as those in Tawa, are more suitable than others for older people. While the housing in Tawa is open to all household types, it is likely it will remain as housing for older people.*

Thank you again for your interest in this important Council service. You are welcome to provide further feedback to Vicki McLaren, Manager City Housing.

Yours sincerely

Bridget Duley  
**Senior Policy Advisor – Policy Team**  
Ph: (04) 803 8683  
Email: [bridget.duley@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:bridget.duley@wcc.govt.nz)